

Hausfeld Plans Expansion With All-Women C-Suite

By **Justin Wise**

Law360 (June 8, 2021, 3:35 PM EDT) -- Hausfeld LLP is bringing on a veteran business and client development official as its global chief marketing officer, the plaintiffs firm said Tuesday, forming an all-women C-suite as it looks to expand its foothold in the U.S. and Europe and diversify its litigation practices.

Bridget Uebel joins Hausfeld after two years as director of client development at Norton Rose Fulbright. She will work alongside Hausfeld Global Chief Operating Officer Catherine Gill and Global Chief Financial Officer Sue Huberty, marking the first time three women have filled the C-suite since the firm launched in 2008.



Bridget Uebel

"It's a great opportunity to work with some very experienced and dynamic colleagues ... [who] have a lot of law firm and industry experience," Uebel told Law360 Pulse. "Hausfeld is genuinely an inclusive firm, and I think this is one of many pioneering aspects to the way the firm operates — promoting women to very senior leadership roles. It's a fantastic development for somebody like myself."

The addition of Uebel, who is based in London, follows what Hausfeld global vice chair Brian Ratner described as a "rollercoaster" year for litigators because of COVID-19. But demand from claimants remained strong, Ratner told Law360 Pulse, which helped drive a roughly 30% growth in the firm's staff and attorney headcount over the last 12 months. The firm did not disclose its 2020 financial performance.

"We expect our growth trajectory to continue in the next three to five years both in terms of the diversification of our practice and our team," Ratner said, noting the firm now has 150 attorneys globally.

He said in a statement that Uebel brings the "right set of skills at the right time" to help that expansion.

Uebel spent the last 20 years leading marketing and business development at firms across the U.S., U.K., and Asia, according to Hausfeld. She said she will lead firmwide marketing, communications and client development strategies in her new role.

She noted that the areas of litigation and arbitration continue to evolve and that she sees "lots of opportunities" to work with the firm's clients. She also said she'd be paying special attention to how the firm can continue to "work effectively" in the wake of the shift to remote work.

Since launching in 2008 in Washington, D.C., Hausfeld has opened four more offices in the U.S. and seven in Europe. The firm handles matters across the globe in areas including antitrust, environment, civil rights and domestic and international securities.

Ratner said Tuesday that the firm is pursuing a high volume of cases both in antitrust and data privacy. Its investments in antitrust have prompted a lot of work in Europe and the U.S. against major tech companies.

"The tech space is exploding, and we're at the forefront of that area with a whole range of cases,"

Ratner said. The firm is serving as outside counsel in Washington, D.C.'s **antitrust suit** against online retail giant Amazon. It's also representing an action against Google for allegedly **breaching** British and European data protection rules by tracking children's data without parental consent.

In February 2020, Hausfeld launched its latest European office in Amsterdam, which it said at the time cemented its position as a leading claimants firm throughout the continent. The firm also has offices in Germany and the U.K., among other locations.

Antitrust remains a core strength, but Ratner said the firm's been diversifying its work in places like the U.K. In January, the firm hired Ned Beale, a London-based partner who specializes in commercial disputes litigation and arbitration, and it's currently expanding other capabilities in Europe, Ratner said.

When Hausfeld **opened an office in Germany in 2015**, it did so in a partnership with litigation funder Burford Capital LLC. Hausfeld continues to have a relationship with Burford today, Ratner noted, with the firm using litigation finance options mostly in European matters.

--Additional reporting by Andrew Strickler. Editing by Alyssa Miller.

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